

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/975,226

Examiner

Romain Jeanty

Applicant(s)

WEIGELT ET AL.

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3623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/20/06, and 2/12/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12, 22-30 and 32-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

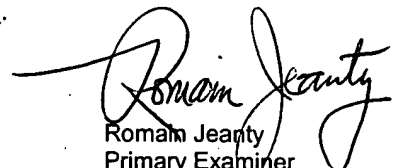
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Romain Jeanty
Primary Examiner
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Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Katharina W. Schuster on February 12, 2007.

In the Claims:

Claim 1:

Line 1, after structure, insert --wherein the computer-executable instructions are further executable to split problem information into revenue management problem data and optimization sequence data, mapping the revenue management problem data to the industry-independent revenue management data model, and based on the optimization sequence data, apply one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data in the industry-independent revenue management data model to derive an optimal network-wide solution for the network--.

Claim 22:

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Line 20, after structure, insert --split problem information into revenue management problem data and optimization sequence data, mapping the revenue management problem data to the industry-independent revenue management data model, and based on the optimization sequence data, apply one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data in the industry-independent revenue management data model to derive an optimal network-wide solution for the network--.

Line 22, after and, insert --based on the optimization sequence data--.

Line 24, after network, delete "~~based on information~~", and insert --by applying one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data--.

Claim 28:

Line 18, after structure, insert -- splitting problem information into revenue management problem data and optimization sequence data--.

Line 19, after mapping, insert --the --.

Line 20, after model, insert --based on the optimization sequence data, applying one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data in the generic revenue management data model to derive an optimal network-wide solution for the network--.

Claim 31: Cancelled

Claim 32:

Line 1, delete "~~31~~", insert --28--.

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Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-12, 22-30, 32-34 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art is to Hammann (U.S. 2002/0055865) and Talluri (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,315). Hammann teaches a computer-based method for determining marginal values of individual resources, data from the individual resources are loaded into a resource revenue management system. Talluri teaches a revenue management system for managing reservations for a limited capacity resource, such as seats on an airline flight which includes a plurality of networked computers. However, Hammann and Talluri fail to teach wherein the computer-executable instructions are further executable to split problem information into revenue management problem data and optimization sequence data, mapping the revenue management problem data to the industry-independent revenue management data model, and based on the optimization sequence data, apply one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data in the industry-independent revenue management data model to derive an optimal network-wide solution for the network as recited in independent claim 1.

The closest prior art is to Hammann (U.S. 2002/0055865) and Talluri (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,315). Hammann teaches a computer-based method for determining marginal values of individual resources, data from the individual resources are loaded into a resource revenue management system. Talluri teaches a revenue management system for managing reservations for a limited capacity resource, such as seats on an airline flight which includes a plurality of

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networked computers. However, Hammann and Talluri fail to teach split problem information into revenue management problem data and optimization sequence data, mapping the revenue management problem data to the tangible storage medium according to the generic revenue management data model, and based on the optimization sequence data, perform at least one network optimization to derive to derive an optimal network-wide solution for the network by applying one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data in the first data structure , the second data structure, the third data structure, and the fourth data structure as recited in independent claim 22.

The closest prior art is to Hammann (U.S. 2002/0055865) and Talluri (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,315). Hammann teaches a computer-based method for determining marginal values of individual resources, data from the individual resources are loaded into a resource revenue management system. Talluri teaches a revenue management system for managing reservations for a limited capacity resource, such as seats on an airline flight which includes a plurality of networked computers. However, Hammann and Talluri fail to teach splitting problem information into revenue management problem data and optimization sequence data, mapping the revenue management problem data to the database or the memory according to the generic revenue management data, and based on the optimization sequence data, applying one or more revenue management programs to the revenue management problem data in the generic revenue management data model to derive an optimal network-wide solution for the network as recited in independent claim 28.

Conclusion

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4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Talluri et al (An Analysis of Bid-Price Controls for Network Revenue Management), discloses a method for controlling the sale of inventory in revenue management applications.

b. Gallego (A Multiproduct Dynamic Pricing Problem and Its Applications to Network Yield management), discloses a yield management system for price allocation decision in a multi-market, multi-resource setting.

c. Gregory (WO9725684), discloses a method for determining marginal values for use in a revenue management.

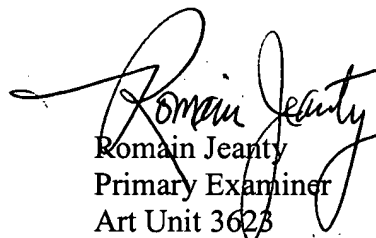
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Romain Jeanty whose telephone number is (571) 272-6732. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq R. Hafiz can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RJ


Romain Jeanty
Primary Examiner
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